Clinical Pastoral Education

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is graduate level, interfaith professional education for ministry. It brings you into supervised encounters with people in crisis. Through intense involvement with people in need of emotional and spiritual care, and the feedback you receive from peers and certified educators, you develop new awareness of yourself as a person, your abilities as a spiritual caregiver, and the needs of those whom you serve. As your ability to be present with self—your authentic thoughts—feelings, world views, social location, etc. increases so does your ability to be empathetically present with others.

Through reflection on specific human situations, you learn to utilize your faith tradition as a lens that informs your understanding and practice of spiritual care. Within the interdisciplinary team process of helping people, you develop skills in the interpersonal and professional relationships. Our students learn from ACPE Certified Educators, seasoned Chaplains and other healthcare professionals.

CPE students include people preparing to enter professional hospital chaplaincy, hospice chaplaincy, military chaplaincy, prison chaplaincy, pastors, seminary students, interested lay persons, others in graduate programs and spiritual caregivers seeing continuing education.

In our program we utilize diverse curriculum and strive to facilitate inclusive student groups including, but not limited to ethnicity, gender-identity, nationality, orientation, faith beliefs and socio-economic background.

CaroMont Health

CaroMont Regional Medical Center is a licensed, Joint Commission accredited 435-bed, not-for-profit hospital governed by its board of trustees. CRMC provides a variety of specialty services including: The Birthplace, CaroMont Cancer Center, CaroMont Center for Mental Wellness, CaroMont Heart Center, Emergency Services, Imaging Services, Neurosciences, Advanced Spine Care, Rehab and Sports Medicine, The Sleep Center, Special Care Unites, Surgical Services, and the CaroMont Wound and Diabetes Centers. Our superb reputation is backed by numerous awards, such as the Midas National Platinum Award for Excellence in Quality Outcomes and being named one of Thomas Reuters’ Top 100 Hospitals.

Gastonia, North Carolina is a beautiful city located at the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. A three-time All American City and recipient of the US Conference of Mayors top Livability Award, Gastonia is recognized as one of the area’s best places to live and work. Those factors, combined with the city’s strategic location just minutes west of Charlotte, create an ideal combination of location, size and quality of life.
Candidates for CPE

Applicants to the CPE program must be mature, in good emotional and physical health, have a capacity for relationships and be open to change and growth. Formal education and life experience should reflect theological and academic competence equal to college level ability. Applicants seeking certification as a Chaplain by one of the national certifying bodies will provide evidence of how they plan to meet the academic and ecclesial requirements of certification.

To Apply for Admission

Complete an ACPE application, found on the ACPE website at: https://www.acpe.edu/ACPE/Resources/Forms.aspx
Email or mail completed application to:
amanda.cole@caromonthhealth.org
Department of Spiritual Care
Attn. Amanda Cole,
Data Analyst/Administrative Assistant
CaroMont Health
2525 Court Dr. Gastonia, NC 28054

Accreditation

CaroMont Health maintains regular ACPE programs on campus. CaroMont is fully accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) www.ACPE.edu and the US Department of Education to offer Level I and II CPE. CPE Educators are certified by ACPE to conduct programs of CPE.

CaroMont Health CPE Programs

Residency:
We offer a four unit Level I & Level II CPE residency. This program includes a competitive stipend of $35,568, as well as, vacation time, employee benefits, and mentoring for those pursuing the Board Certification Process.
Through our program you are invited to engage the clinical method to name and claim who you are and what you bring to our common mission of supporting the well-being of patients, families and staff. We utilize diverse curriculum and inclusive peer groups to develop your understanding and practice of spiritual care.

Internships:
Extended Internship CPE Units
We offer two units a year; each 400-hour CPE unit is completed over a 16-week period. One unit is offered in the fall (Sept.-Dec.) and another is offered each spring (Jan.-May).

Summer Internship CPE Unit
We offer a 400-hour intensive CPE internship during a full-time 11-week session each summer. This unit is especially designed to meet the need of Seminary students. The emphasis of this unit is to focus on increasing the students’ pastoral care skills.